

## Message Text

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SUBJ: FOOD SUPPLIES IN SELO KAMYANSKOYE, ZAKARPATSKAYA OBLAST

1. SOVIET EMIGRANTS FROM SELO KAMYANSKOYE, ZAKARPATSKAYA OBLAST, TALKED WITH CONSOFF JANUARY 22 CONCERNING FOOD SITUATION IN THEIR AREA. SELO KAMYANSKOYE IS A SMALL VILLAGE LOCATED IN AN OBLAST WHICH IS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SOME LARGER TOWNS, CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE EMIGRANTS, SUPPLIES OF WHITE BREAD AT 16 K AND BLACK BREAD AT 14 K ARE ADEQUATE. BUTTER, HOWEVER, IS IN MUCH SHORTER SUPPLY, CAUSING HARDSHIP FOR FAMILIES WHO BUY BUTTER TO ENRICH MILK FOR BABIES. SUPPLIES OF PORK AT 2.80 R ARE ADEQUATE AND, SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY, KOLBASA IS MORE EXPENSIVE AT APPROXIMATELY 4 R. BEEF IS SELDOM AVAILABLE AND CAN BE OBTAINED ONLY BY ARRIVING AT THE STORE AS SOON AS SUPPLIES GO ON SALE. FISH SUPPLIES ARE GOOD, BUT QUALITY IS NOT AS HIGH AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS. FISH PRICES RANGE FROM 90K TO 1.20 R DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF FISH PURCHASED.

3. FRUIT SUPPLIES IN SELO KAMYANSKOYE ARE APPARENTLY GOOD, INCLUDING APPLES AT 2 R AND GRAPES AT 30-35 K. PER KILO. VEGETABLES, HOWEVER, ARE MORE SCARCE, PARTICULARLY SUCH STAPLES AS CABBAGE AND ONIONS. CABBAGE SELLS FOR 10 K BUT HAS BEEN IN SHORT

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SUPPLY ALL WINTER. THE EMIRGRANTS TOLD CONSOFF THAT THE

SHORTAGE OF ONIONS HAS PROMPTED THEIR FRIENDS TO REQUEST THAT THE EMIGRANTS SEND BACK ONIONS IMMEDIATELY UPON THEIR ARRIVAL US. CARROTS AT 20 K AND POTATOES AT 9 - 10 K ARE REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE IN ADEQUATE QUANTITIES.

4. THE EMIGRANTS CONCLUDED THAT FOOD SUPPLIES THIS YEAR ARE GENERALLY TIGHTER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. THE IMPACT OF THE RELATIVE SCARCITY OF MANY COMMODITIES, IS OFFSET BY THE PRIVATE PLOTS MAINTAINED BY MOST FAMILIES. FOR INSTANCE, THE EMIGRANTS REPLIED TO A QUESTION CONCERNING AVAILABILITY OF CHICKEN BY SAYING THAT SUPPLIES WERE ADEQUATE BECAUSE EACH FAMILY RAISES CHICKENS AND OTHER BIRDS ON ITS PRIVATE PLOT. THE EMIGRANTS ALSO NOTED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL FAMILY'S DIET DEPENDS ON THE BREADWINNER'S JOB, SALARY AND PARTY CONNECTIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE EMIGRANTS, INDIVIDUALS WELL FIXED IN THESE CATEGORIES ARE STILL ABLE TO OBTAIN VIRTUALLY ALL THE STANDARD FOODS WHILE OTHERS ENDURE ANNOYING AND SOMETIMES SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGES.  
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